

N.2 : Foundation Day 2007 function

Foundation day function of Raja Ramanna Centre for Advanced Technology was celebrated on 19th February, 2007. It may be recalled that it was on 19th February, 1984 that the foundation stone for the “Centre for Advanced Technology” was laid by the late President of India, Gyani Zail Singh. This year’s celebration was marked by the visit of eminent scientist, Prof. P. Balaram, Director, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.



Fig.N.2: Prof. P. Balaram addressing the RRCAT staff

The main function was held in the Central Complex auditorium. Dr. P.D. Gupta, Outstanding Scientist & Head, Laser Plasma Division gave the welcome address, which was followed by Director’s address by Dr. V.C. Sahni. In his address, Dr. Sahni reviewed the progress made by the Centre during the last one year. The chief guest Prof. Balaram gave the Foundation Day address. His lecture entitled, “Science, Scientists and Scientometrics” held the audience spell-bound for more than one hour. Shri. S.Kotaiyah, Project Manager (Indus-2) proposed the vote of thanks. The programme concluded with all the staff members of RRCAT gathering on the central lawns for a high tea with the visiting dignitary.

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N.3 : National Science Day 2007 celebration

RRCAT kept up its tradition by celebrating the National Science Day on Saturday, 24th February 2007. For more than a decade, RRCAT has been celebrating the National Science Day on the last Saturday of the month of February to commemorate the Nobel Prize winning

discovery of “Raman effect” by Dr. Chandrasekhar Venkat Raman.

Prior invitations had been sent to a large number of schools in Indore district, calling for students of classes XI and XII (science) to visit RRCAT. In response to the invitations, a total of 1460 students from 87 schools turned up. Initial registration of individual schools was done at the main gate. At the time of registration, each school was assigned an escorting employee of RRCAT to act as guide cum supervisor for their visit to the Centre. All the visiting school teams were first made to assemble in the main auditorium and lecture halls in the Central Complex, where a scientific talk was delivered by the officiating Director, Dr. P.D. Gupta. The students and their accompanying teachers listened with keen interest as Dr. Gupta lucidly described the discovery of Raman effect, and the subsequent growth of science in India. Dr. Gupta also told the students about the start of the atomic energy programme in India and gave an outline of the history of RRCAT and information on some of the scientific activities being pursued here.



Fig.N.3 : Students looking at the artificial cloud formed using liquid nitrogen over water.

After listening to the stimulating and informative talk by Dr. Gupta, the individual school teams started their guided tour of RRCAT. In view of the fact that many of these students had been on the move since early morning, light snacks were served at the start of their tour. There were more than thirty excellent educative exhibits distributed over ten different buildings. These included models, posters and video shows on the Indus-1 and Indus-2 synchrotron radiation sources, live demonstrations of cutting and marking with laser beams, demonstrations of gas laws with